

REMARKS

The applicant has carefully reviewed the official action and the references it cites. In the official action, claims 1-3, 5, 8-13, 22-24, 26, 29-34, and 36-38 were rejected as unpatentable over Goertzen in view of Furlan et al., and claims 4, 6, 7, 14-21, 25, 27, 28, 35, and 39-41 were objected to as being dependent on rejected claims but allowable if rewritten in independent form.

As an initial matter, the applicant has rewritten claims 6 and 18 in independent form and, thus, these claims and claims 19-21 dependent on claim 18 are now in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites an encoder that encodes a signal to insert an ancillary code representing a calculated entropy value. The art of record fails to teach or suggest such an encoder. In particular, Goertzen merely teaches using an entropy encoding technique to vary the number of bits used to represent transmitted symbols. Thus, while Goertzen teaches that the length of a code or symbol may be related to signal entropy, Goertzen never teaches or even hints at the insertion of an ancillary code representing an entropy value, as recited in claim 1. Furlan et al. fail to overcome the above-noted deficiency of Goertzen. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 and claims 2-5 and 7-10 dependent thereon are now in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 11, 22, and 32 also recite the use of an ancillary code representing an entropy value and, thus, are also patentable over the art of record. Thus, the applicant respectfully submits that these claims and claims 12-17, 23-31, and 33-41 dependent respectively thereon are also in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, the applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims pending in the instant application are now in condition for allowance.

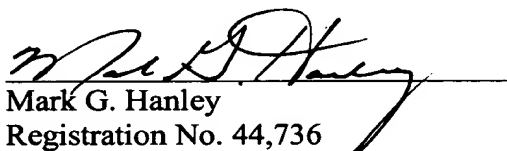
Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

If there are any remaining issues in this application, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 21, 2005